Manuscript Submission Guidelines and Policies for *ASSAY and Drug Development Technologies*

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Journal Information

- **Manuscript Submission Site: https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/assay**
- Editorial Office Contact: assay_eo@liebertpub.com
- Support Contact: prosupport@liebertpub.com
- Journal Model: Hybrid (Open Access Option)
- Blinding: Single Blind
- File formatting requirement stage: On revision. Format neutral on original submission.
- Instant Online Option (immediate publication of accepted version): No
- Average time to initial decison: 31 days

About the Journal

ASSAY and Drug Development Technologies focuses on early-stage screening techniques and tools that optimize the identification of novel leads and targets for new drug development, running the spectrum from nanotechnology through cellular imaging. Case studies are presented, and technology applications are extensive. Articles published in *ASSAY and Drug Development Technologies* emphasize methodologies and technologies to accelerate drug discovery.

Included topics are: State-of-the-art research, methods, materials, and protocols in assay design and target development; High throughput screening; High throughput chemistry; Lab automation; Data analysis and information management; Microplate standards; Screen design and advanced technology; Protein structure and function; Compound library generation; Bioinformatics and data mining; Validation strategies; Biosensors; Detection technologies; Miniaturization and nanotechnology; Protein–protein interaction as novel drug targets; Novel screening methods with high information content; Metabolically engineered cells and organisms; Imaging technologies for live cells, tissues, and small animals; and Virtual screening.

Manuscripts submitted to this Journal must not be under consideration elsewhere.

Manuscript Types and Guidelines

Original Article	• 3,000-word limit • Unstructured abstract of no more than 250 words • Maximum total of eight (8) figures and/or tables • Protocol Table is required
Review Articles	• 8,000-word limit • Unstructured abstract of no more than 250 words • Maximum total of ten (10) figures and/or tables

Perspectives	• 1,500-word limit • Unstructured abstract of no more than 100 words • An Introduction and a Conclusion are mandatory • Maximum total of three (3) figures and/or tables • Maximum of 25 references
Editorials	• 1,000-word limit • No abstract • No figures or tables • Maximum of 10 references
Letter to the Editor	• 500-word limit • No abstract • May include one figure OR table • Reference citations are identical in style to those of full original articles, but should not exceed five (5).
Protocol	The Protocol Article manuscript type is dedicated to supporting the awareness and publication of operating procedures for methodologies that reinforce key advances in the field. The step-by-step protocol provided in a Protocol Article is intended to establish peer-reviewed methodologies and enable technical improvements for specialists and non-specialists. The Protocol Article submission should describe a method that has already been used to produce results in a peer-reviewed original research article and should describe a technological or methodological update or advancement when compared to the "state-of-the art" methodology. Every submitted Protocol Article must provide data and compare the new process to existing processes or identify gaps in prior related protocol publications. • 4,000-word limit • 350-word structured abstract • Composition: Introduction, Method, Experiment, Results, and Discussion • 10 figures maximum • 6 tables maximum

Word limits do NOT pertain to the abstract, disclosure statements, author contribution statements, funding information, acknowledgments, tables, figure legends, or references.

ASSAY and Drug Development Technologies welcomes format-neutral manuscripts for first-time submissions. Newly submitted manuscripts will not be un-submitted for formatting issues. However, after the initial peer review process, revised submissions must follow correct journal formatting and file guidelines, as described below in the Instructions for Authors. Please note that there are certain compulsory elements (ie: IRB approvals, author disclosures, etc.) for all new submissions. Manuscripts submitted without this information will be un-submitted and the submitting author will be asked to add the required components.

References

ASSAY and Drug Development Technologies uses Mary Ann Liebert's **Vancouver** reference format. Templates are available in **Zotero** and through the CSL Style Repository. An **Endnote template** is also available.

Liebert Vancouver Style: Order of Citation

- Reference List: Prepared in sequential order as cited in text.

- In-text Citations: All references must be cited in text in numerical order, set in superscript Arabic numerals outside of any punctuation. Do not set reference numbers in parentheses or brackets. To cite several references at once, use commas to separate non-sequential citations and use dashes to separate sequential citations; do not include spaces. Ex: 3,7,12–15
- Journal titles should follow the abbreviation style of PubMed/Medline.
- Include among the references any articles that have been accepted but have not yet published; identify the name of publication and add "In Press." If the reference has been published online, provide the DOI number in place of the page range.

Style Examples for Reference List:

Type of Reference	Punctuation and Order of Elements in Reference List
Journal article with 1-3 authors	Wang Q, Nambiar K, Wilson JM. Isolating natural adeno-associated viruses from primate tissues with a high-fidelity polymerase. Hum Gene Ther 2021;32(23-24):1439-1449; doi: 10.1089/hum.2021.055 [insert article-specific DOI if available].
Journal article with more than 3 authors	Pfister EL, DiNardo N, Mondo E, et al. Artificial miRNAs reduce human mutant Huntington throughout the striatum in a transgenic sheep model of Huntington's disease. Hum Gene Ther 2018;29(6):663–673; doi: 10.1089/hum.2017.199 [insert article-specific DOI if available].
Edited Book	Herzog RW, Zolotukhin S, (eds). A Guide to Human Gene Therapy. World Scientific Publishing Co. Pte. Ltd.: Singapore; 2010.
Chapter in an Edited Book	Nicklin SA, Baker AH. Adenoviral Vectors. In: A Guide to Human Gene Therapy. (Herzog RW, Zolotukhin S. eds.) World Scientific Publishing Co. Pte. Ltd.: Singapore; 2010; pp. 21-36.
Authored Book	Isaacson W. The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race. Simon & Schuster: New York, NY; 2021.
Website	Last name, first/middle initial(s) of author(s) [if available]. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. What is Gene Therapy? Silver Spring, MD; 2018. Available from: **https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/cellular-gene-therapy-products/what-gene-therapy** [Last accessed: month/date/year].
Personal communications	References that are unpublished (ie: personal communications, emails, letters) are not to be included in the reference list. Instead, insert “Personal communication; [name], date” parenthetically at the point of citation within text.
Using previously published images or tables as a reference	Reused/adapted images, tables, or any published material must be officially cited as a reference in the reference list, and the author(s) of the submitted work must obtain written permission from the copyright holder. Verbal approvals are not acceptable. Any fees associated with the reuse or adaptation of any material is the sole responsibility of the author(s).

Other Instructions

Protocol Tables

Authors should include a Protocol Table having the general format as shown below to supplement the Methods section. This format will allow the optimized HTS or other assay protocols with specific comments for each step to be presented in a straightforward manner, and allow ADT to establish a consistent protocol format.

Table 2 Example HTS assay protocol table

Step	Parameter	Value	Description
1	Plate cells	3 µl	5,000 OCI-Ly3 cells
2	Controls	20 nl	±doxycycline, media, MG132
3	Library compounds	20 nl	57 µM to 0.7 nM dilution series
4	Reporter induction	1 µl	Induce CBR and CBG68 luciferases
5	Incubation time	4 h	37°C, 5% CO_2
6	Reporter reagent	4 µl	Chroma-Glo detection
7	Incubation time	10 min	Ambient temperature
8	Assay readout	540 and 618 nm	CCD imager, luminescent mode

Step	Notes	
1	Solid white tissue culture–treated plates, 1-tip dispense cells all wells	
2	Columns 1–2, 16-pt MG132 titration, duplicate; column 3, rows 1–24 doxycycline only, rows 25–32 medium; column 4, rows 1–24, 10 µM MG132, rows 25–32 medium only. MG123 added with Pintool (V&P Scientific), media ± doxycycline added with nanoliter reagent dispenser	
3	Pintool transfer (tip wash sequence: DMSO, iPA, MeOH, 3-s vacuum dry)	
4	20 ng ml^{-1} stock concentration doxycycline	
5	Plates covered with stainless steel gasket-lined lids containing pinholes for gas exchange	
6	8-tip dispense reagent all wells	
7	Plates lidded until read	
8	$G' = \frac{Lgf - (R' \times (Rgf/R))}{Ggf/G}$ $R' = \frac{Lrf - (Lgf \times (Grf/Ggf))}{(Rrf/R) - (Rgf/R) \times (Grf/Ggf)}$	Green filter (540/20 nm); red filter (618/8 nm); 15-s exposure; correction factors for spectral overlap between green and red luminescence

Adapted from ref. 1.

Figure layout

Figures should be on a white background, and must avoid excessive boxing, unnecessary color, a title on the figure itself, spurious decorative effects (such as three-dimensional ‘skyscraper’ histograms).Do not use a gray or dark background for histograms, and if possible prepare them in a professional graphing program such as Prism, Origin, etc. that matches the presentation format of, for example, dose-response plots.

Concentration response plots. Concentration or dose-response curves should be plotted using a logarithmic x-axis scale for effector (e.g., compound or ligand) concentration and a linear y-axis scale for the effect being measured (e.g., readout from plate reader, percent activity relative to control). In the case of replicate determinations, each point should represent the mean, and error bars should be used to show the SD or SEM. Points may be joined by a line or superimposed on a curve fit obtained by non-linear regression. The figure legend should report the number of replicates, the error calculation used (e.g., SD or SEM), and the type of curve fit.

This journal’s conventional concentration response curve nomenclature is “Log [cpd], M”. Plots may contain symbol legend within the plot itself, however this information must be also contained within the figure legend (see example below). In general, please differentiate multiple curves on a plot by the type of data point symbol. Avoid use of color if possible.

Examples below show acceptable figure layouts for the figure legend below.

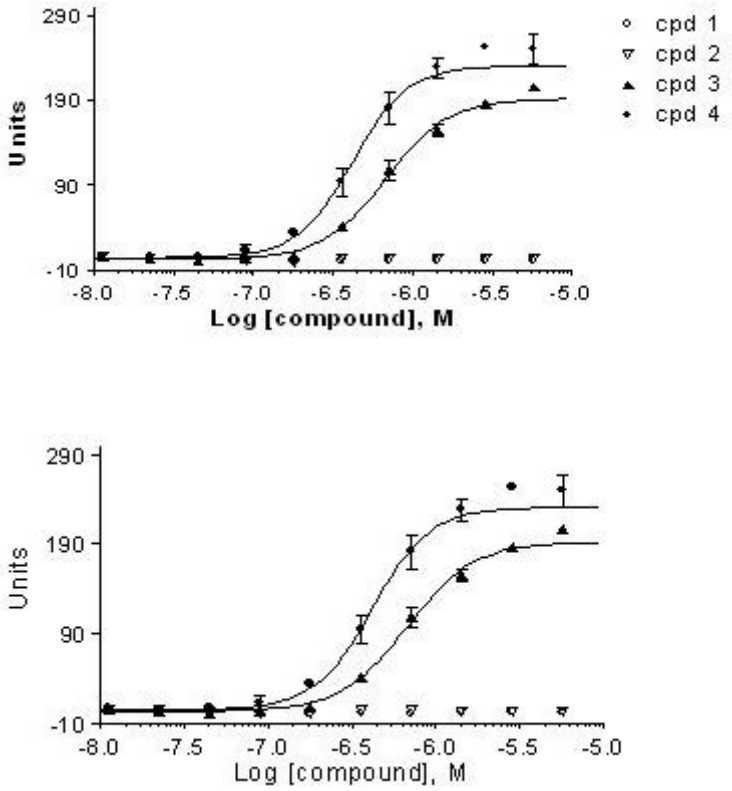
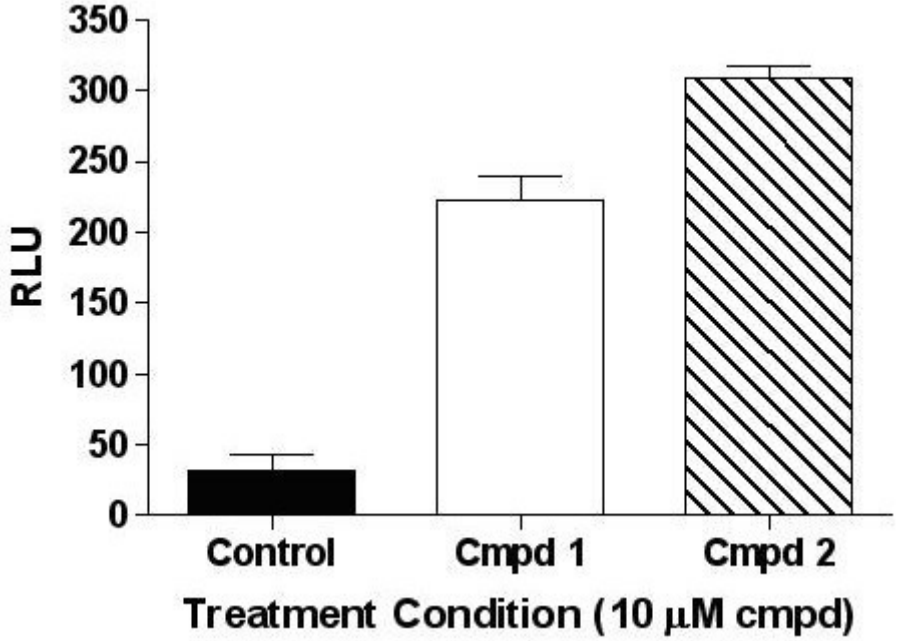
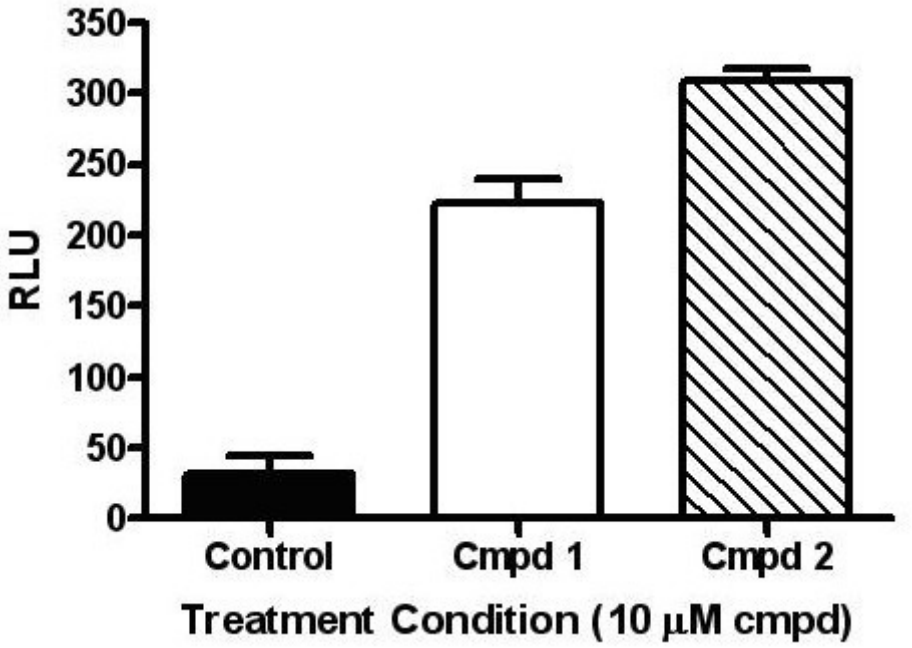


Figure 1. Dose-response of active and inactive analogs of two compound series. The inhibition of esterase activity was determined for two representative compounds from the benzthiazol and quinazoline series. The IC50 of the active benzthiazol cpd 123 (●) was 420 ± 18 nM and the inactive stereo isomer, cpd 124 (? ○ ?),had no effect at the highest tested concentration of 6 uM. The IC50 of the active quinazoline cpd 225(▲) was 677± 30 nM, and the inactive ester, cpd 226 (?∇?), had no effect at the highest tested concentration of 6 uM. The data presented are means +/- SEM of triplicate wells (n=3)

Bar graphs

Please standardize all figures using a professional graphing software package (e.g. Prism Graphpad). Please do not use Excel for graphing if possible. For bar graphs, use the following patterns, solid, open, and hashed with three or less different conditions (see below); for an additional fourth bar reverse hash lines. Use the finest line settings (e.g. ½ point) when option is available. Avoid use of color in bar graphs.





Error bars and definition

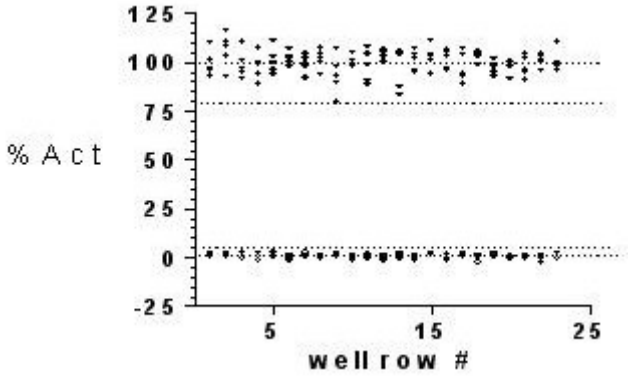
All Figures displaying error bars (e.g., bar graphs, dose-response curves) must include in the figure legend a sentence describing how the error was determined, for example "The data presented are means +/- SEM of triplicate wells (n=3)", or "Error bars represent standard error of n=4 values", etc.

Error measurements must also accompany all reported dissociation/association constants, kinetic parameters (e.g. Km, Vmax) and IC50, e.g. IC50 = 8 ±1 uM.

Z' factor

All reported Z-factors must include within the paper specifically what ‘signal’ and ‘background’ or ‘inhibited’ conditions were used to obtain the data used to calculate this value. In addition, and importantly, how many wells were used to calculate the Z' For a 96-well plate ideally half the wells (n=48) would be used as ‘background’ or ‘inhibited’ and the

other half (n=48) as the ‘stimulated’ or ‘max signal’. A typical experiment in the standard 96-well format should be shown. Example is below.



Chemical Structures

Structures should be produced with the use of a drawing program such as ChemDraw. Authors using the current versions of ChemDraw will find the necessary parameters incorporated into this program (“ACS Document 1996”).

Comparative Structures between Assay Technologies

Authors preparing manuscripts containing comparisons of assay technologies are advised that the following points will be considered during peer-review:

- A Z-factor analysis along with the formula used to calculate the Z-factor must be included, especially if formats are fundamentally different, e.g., a ratiometric vs. a single readout assay. The authors should describe the plate format, number of wells, and plates used to obtain this statistic.
- Discrepancies in the ability to reproduce an activity of published controls must be carefully explained. Particular attention should be paid to experimental parameters and reagent properties that differ from those previously reported (e.g., enzyme specific activity, protein or compound purity).
- Product comparisons may be supported by reference to data from peer-reviewed publications. In the absence of prior peer reviewed publication, data to support (or critique) a specific product should be presented in the paper so that it will be subjected to peer review upon submission to Assay and Drug Development Technologies. Selective use of literature to support an advantage over an existing technology is inappropriate, as is selective omission of literature references to create the appearance of a competitive advantage. In general, existing literature relevant to the reported assay technology should be cited comprehensively, and negative and positive aspects should be discussed in a scientific and unbiased manner.
- Vendor manuals available online may be referenced when a method is based on a commercial kit or performed “according to the manufacturer’s instructions.” Reviewers, however, may require details to be included in the manuscript. Data in manuals, application notes, and posters that have not been subjected to peer review may not be used to compare one product with another or to support a central argument in a paper.
- The use of promotional or marketing-like statements is not permitted. Examples of marketing terminology: "XYZ Biosciences has recently launched the first commercially available version...." "For higher throughput a plate based version, Speedy Workstation, is available. With this device screening of large compound libraries will be possible without loss of data quality." In addition please remove all terms of novelty from the title and text (e.g., novel, innovative, unique).

PaperPal Preflight

The Paperpal Preflight service is available for this journal. PaperPal Preflight allows authors to check their **Original Research** manuscripts for common errors prior to submitting a manuscript for consideration. Please note that this does not guarantee that your paper will pass all submission or other checks, nor that it will be considered for review.

The checks are configured for Original Research manuscripts only and may not be applicable to other manuscript types. There may be additional requirements for submission. Please review the full instructions for authors for guidelines.

The basic service is free. PaperPal preflight offers an *optional* fee-based service that will provide a report showing tracked changes and potential modifications. Please note that if this service is used, a clean copy of the manuscript must be uploaded to the submission system.

There is no obligation to use either the free or paid service. No editorial, review, nor any other decisions will be dependent on its use.

All manuscripts must be submitted through the journal's ScholarOne Manuscripts site.

General Manuscript Submission Guidelines and Policies for Mary Ann Liebert Journals

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Submission Preparation

All manuscripts must be prepared in accordance with the Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals (icmje.org). Please consult your specific journal's requirements for additional information.

All Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. journals follow the standards, guidelines, and best practices set forth by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE; publicationethics.org), the International Committee of Journal Medical Editors (ICJME; www.icmje.org), the World Medical Association (WMA); www.wma.net), and the American Medical Association (www.ama-assn.org).

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. recommends that submissions follow standard relevant reporting guidelines. Please consult The Equator Network for more information.

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The Paperpal Preflight service is available for most journals. PaperPal Preflight allows authors to check their **Original Research** manuscripts for common errors prior to submitting a manuscript for consideration. Please note that this does not guarantee that your paper will pass all submission or other checks, nor that it will be considered for review.

There may be additional requirements for submission. Please review the full instructions for authors for guidelines.

The basic service is free. PaperPal preflight offers an *optional* fee-based service that will provide a report showing tracked changes and potential modifications. Please note that if this service is used, a clean copy of the manuscript must be uploaded to the submission system.

There is no obligation to use either the free or paid service. No editorial, review, nor any other decisions will be dependent on its use.

All manuscripts must be submitted through the journal's ScholarOne Manuscripts site. Please refer to the individual journal's instructions for more information and to access the service.

Manuscript Formatting

Please check your journal's requirements for file formatting. Many journals require formatting compliance only on revision; however, unless stated, the file formatting should comply with the following requirements on submission.

Manuscript Files

The main text file, figure legends, and tables should be prepared in Microsoft Word. Some journals may accept LaTex. Please consult your individual journal instructions for guidance.

File Naming

- All file names should be in English and contain only alphanumeric characters.
- **Do not include spaces, symbols, special characters, dashes, dots, or underscores.**
- Title each file with the type of content contained in the file (e.g., manuscript.doc, tables.doc, FigureLegends.doc, Fig1.tif, SupplementalData.pdf, etc.).

Figures

- Submission of high resolution .TIFF or .EPS figure files is preferred. Please upload as individual files.
- Cite figures consecutively in text within parentheses.
- Images should not reveal the name of a patient or a manufacturer.
- Note: Figures that will not be reproduced in color must be readable and interpretable in black and white.

Figure Legends

- A legend should be provided for each supplied figure.
- All legends should be numbered consecutively.
- Figure legends may be included at the end of the main text file or uploaded as a separate, double-spaced Word file.
- In each legend, provide explanations for any abbreviations or symbols that appear in the figure.
- If the figure is taken from a copyrighted publication, permission must be secured by the author(s) and supplied at the time of submission with appropriate credit listed in the legend. Permissions and associated fees are the responsibility of the author.

Tables

- Tables may be included after the references at the end of the main text file, or uploaded as a single, separate Word file. All tables should be editable.
- Provide a title for each supplied table.
- Cite tables sequentially in text within parentheses.
- Explain abbreviations used in the body of the table in footnotes using superscript letters, not symbols.
- If a table is taken from a copyrighted publication, permission must be secured by the author(s) and supplied at the time of submission with appropriate credit listed in the legend. Permissions and associated fees are the responsibility of the author.

Supplemental Files

- Supplemental files should be uploaded as individual files. Most text, photo, graphic, and video formats are accepted. Ensure that patient identities are not revealed.
- Supplemental Information will not be copyedited or typeset; it will be posted online as supplied.
- For journals that publish accepted versions of papers prior to copyediting and typesetting, supplemental files will not be posted with the paper until after production has been completed.

Manuscript Structure

Specific journal requirements will vary, however the general order of elements in each manuscript should be

- Title page* with full manuscript title, all contributing authors' names and affiliations, a short running title, a denotation of the corresponding author, and a list of 4-6 keywords/search terms,
- Abstract,
- Main text without embedded figures or tables and with appropriate section headings, if applicable. Most research papers should be organized as follows: Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusions.
- Acknowledgments,
- Authorship confirmation/contribution statement (CRediT format is preferred)
- Author(s') disclosure (Conflict of Interest) statement(s), even when not applicable,
- Funding statement, even when not applicable,
- References,
- Tables included in the text or as a separate document,
- Figure legends at the end of the main text or in a separate Word file,
- Figures uploaded as individual high-resolution files,
- Supplemental files uploaded as individual files.

*Double-blinded journals require a separate title page with the title, all contributing authors' names and affiliations, a denotation of the corresponding author, author acknowledgements, disclosures, and related identifying information.

Your individual journal may require

- An Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval (or waiver) statement and statement of patient consent as a separate paragraph after the methods section,
- Other relevant ethics attestations (see icmje.org for further guidance),
- Data sharing statement,
- Specific abstract and content sections, depending on manuscript type,
- Word count limits, tables/figure limits, and reference format requirements.

Please note that paragaphs should be no longer than 15 lines once typeset.

Pre-Publication Policies

Funding

Upon manuscript submission, the submitting agent will have an opportunity to enter funding/grant information. If funding information is entered correctly, the publisher will deposit the funding acknowledgements from the article as part of the standard metadata to Funder Registry. The entered information should include funder names, funder IDs (if available), and associated grant numbers. Special care should be taken when entering this information to ensure total accuracy. Funding information must also be provided within the manuscript.

Government Funded Research / Funder Requirements

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. publishers adheres to national and international funder requirements.

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Other funders, such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, have specific requirements for depositing the accepted version and/or the article of record version of the author manuscript in a repository after an embargo period. Authors funded by these organizations should follow the self-archiving terms and conditions of these separate agreements based on the policies of the specific funding institutions. If you have questions, please contact us for more information.

Peer Review

After internal editorial screening for suitability, all manuscript submissions containing original research or that comprise scholarly review are subject to rigorous, independent, external peer review. Editorials, correspondence, news features, and/or Invited opinion or perspective contributions in other sections of the journal are subject to stringent editorial oversight; at need, external, independent review will be arranged to address specialized topics. Final decisions for publication are solely the responsibility of the Editor(s)-in-Chief.

Exclusivity

Manuscripts should be submitted with the understanding that they have neither been published, nor are under consideration for publication elsewhere, in the same form or substantially similar form. Conference abstracts are excluded. If work was presented at a conference, supply the name, date, and location of the meeting as a footnote on the title page of the submission.

Third-party Submissions and Integrity

If a third party is submitting the manuscript, the submitting agent designation must be used, with the identity of the submitting agent disclosed. We reserve the right to reject any manuscript that does not contain this disclosure. The authors are solely responsible for any manuscript submitted on their behalf.

Confidentiality

Editors and reviewers must maintain strict confidentiality of manuscripts during the peer-review process. Sharing a manuscript in whole or in part, outside the scope of what is necessary for assessment, is impermissible prior to an accepted manuscript's official publication date. Reviewers are not permitted to contact authors directly.

Sharing of Materials

Sharing of Materials

Authors must honor any reasonable request for materials, methods, or data necessary to reproduce or validate the research findings during peer review unless it violates the privacy or confidentiality of human research subjects.

Conflicts of Interest by the Editorial Leadership

No member of the Editorial Leadership of a journal (Editor in Chief, Deputy/Associate/Guest Editors or Editorial Board members) is permitted to participate in the review or decision process for submissions where there is a potential or actual competing interest. This includes, but is not limited to research or review papers of their own authorship or co-authorship. In those cases, an independent member of the leadership will have full discretion to manage review and decision on the manuscript.

Plagiarism, Peer Review, and Publication Integrity

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., is committed to maintaining the integrity of the peer-review process by upholding the highest standards for all published articles. All manuscripts are analyzed and evaluated for plagiarism, peer review integrity, and publication integrity. Manuscript screening may be applied at any point in the process, from submission through post-publication. Plagiarized manuscripts or manuscripts with evidence of publication, image, or peer review misconduct will be rejected immediately. If publication misconduct is identified, we reserve the right to rescind acceptance prior to publication.

Authorship

Authorship is defined by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors in Roles & Responsibilities. Contributors who do not meet all criteria for authorship should not be listed as authors, but they should be acknowledged (**with permission from the named parties**) in the *Acknowledgments* section with a description of their contribution to the work.

ORCID IDs

All submitting authors are required to complete their submissions using an ORCID identifier.

Corresponding Authors

One author should be designated as the corresponding author who will be responsible for communication between the authors and the journal editorial office and publisher. This individual will be responsible for ensuring all authors submit copyright forms, coordinating and responding to page proofs, and managing any other necessary contact during the peer review and production processes.

The submission system permits only one author to be identified as the corresponding author of record. However, we recognize that some submissions call for more than one corresponding author to be noted. In such cases, select one author to be the main point of contact for all communications regarding the peer review process of the paper, and on the title page of the manuscript, designate additional co-corresponding authors by including an asterisk after the authors' names in the byline. Include an accompanying footnote on the title page that reads, "**Co-corresponding authors.*" Please ensure that the title page carries the full affiliation details and email address of any author who should be noted as a corresponding author. If the paper is accepted for publication, the full contact information for all designated co-authors will be listed at the end of the article as per usual journal style.

Authorship Confirmation/Contribution Statement

An authorship contribution statement must be included with the manuscript. We strongly recommend that the authorship contribution statement follow the CRediT Taxonomy guidelines. (https://credit.niso.org/)

- Conceptualization (Ideas; formulation or evolution of overarching research goals and aims.)

- Data curation (Management activities to annotate (produce metadata), scrub data and maintain research data (including software code, where it is necessary for interpreting the data itself) for initial use and later re-use.)
- Formal analysis (Application of statistical, mathematical, computational, or other formal techniques to analyze or synthesize study data.)
- Funding acquisition (Acquisition of the financial support for the project leading to this publication.)
- Investigation (Conducting a research and investigation process, specifically performing the experiments, or data/evidence collection.)
- Methodology (Development or design of methodology; creation of models.)
- Project administration (Management and coordination responsibility for the research activity planning and execution.)
- Resources (Provision of study materials, reagents, materials, patients, laboratory samples, animals, instrumentation, computing resources, or other analysis tools.)
- Software (Programming, software development; designing computer programs; implementation of the computer code and supporting algorithms; testing of existing code components.)
- Supervision (Oversight and leadership responsibility for the research activity planning and execution, including mentorship external to the core team.)
- Validation (Verification, whether as a part of the activity or separate, of the overall replication/reproducibility of results/experiments and other research outputs.)
- Visualization (Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualization/data presentation.)
- Writing – original draft (Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically writing the initial draft (including substantive translation).)
- Writing – review & editing (Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work by those from the original research group, specifically critical review, commentary or revision – including pre- or post-publication stages.)>

Example

Author 1: review and editing (equal). **Author 2**: Conceptualization (lead); writing – original draft (lead); formal analysis (lead); writing – review and editing (equal). **Author 3**: Software (lead); writing – review and editing (equal). **Author 4**: Methodology (lead); writing – review and editing (equal). **Author 5**: Conceptualization (supporting); Writing – original draft (supporting); Writing – review and editing (equal).

Changes in Authorship

Changes in authorship after submission, revision, or acceptance of a paper are generally not permitted, but the editorial leadership recognizes that in rare circumstances, it may be required. The policy for such cases is as follows:

- A request to alter authorship must be made in writing from the corresponding author to the Editor-in-Chief, with a detailed explanation for the request, the nature of the changes, and the names and affiliations of all authors.
- Written approval of all authors named on the manuscript, as well as any individual(s) being added to or removed from the author list must be provided. The Publisher can provide a form for this, if needed.
- Upon receipt of the request and all written approvals of all involved parties, the Editor-in-Chief will consider the request, render a decision, and notify the corresponding author.
- Post-publication changes or alterations to conference abstracts are prohibited.

- If authors are added or removed upon revision submission, without accompanying documentation of the request, the manuscript will be unsubmitted.

Name Change Policy

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. supports the implementation of name changes for reasons including (but not limited to) gender identity, changes to marital status, religious conversion, etc.

Please contact the Director of Production and Editorial to confidentially update your record. Identification or documentation is not required, apart from confirmation that the change is on behalf of yourself (requests cannot be made for other individuals).

Updates will be made to the online versions of the article, but without a formal correction notice and without coauthors being notified.

We recommend authors update ScholarOne and ORCID records with any name changes.

Author Disclosure Statements

Upon submission, authors are required to fully disclose any interests, funding or employment that may inappropriately influence or affect the integrity of the submission. Authors should disclose

- *Competing Interests.* A competing interest exists when an individual (or the individual's institution) has financial or personal relationships that may inappropriately influence his actions. These competing interests may be potential or actual, financial or other.
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